

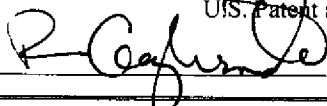
**P A T E N T**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	Joseph AFERZON	Confirmation No.:	7576
Serial No.:	10/519,423	Examiner:	Richard R. Shaffer
Filed:	December 23, 2004	Group Art Unit:	3775
Docket No.:	1292.1236101	Customer No.:	33469
Title:	SPINAL SUPPORT COUPLING DEVICE		

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

MAIL STOP: AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

<b>CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION:</b>	
The undersigned hereby certifies that this paper or papers, as described herein, are being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on this <u>15th</u> day of April 2009.	
By 	Name: Rachel Gagliardi

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed March 16, 2009, setting a one-month shortened statutory period for response ending April 16, 2009.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 10 of this paper.